



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: **2004-15:** Can a door be recessed 8-inches maximum due to wall thickness, or the placement of casework, and other fixed elements?

Summary: The current ADAAG Section 4.13 states the minimum maneuvering clearances at accessible doors that are not automatic or power-assisted shall be as shown in Fig. 25. The floor or ground area within the required clearances shall be level and clear. ADAAG Section 4.13 does not address accessible doors installed in thickened walls. The Draft final for the new ADA and ABA Accessibility Guidelines, Chapter 4, Section 404.2.4.3 published by the U.S. Access Board April 2, 2002, addresses recessed doors and gates. It states that recessed doors and gates where the plane of the doorway is offset more than 8 inches from any obstruction within 18 inches measured laterally on the latch side of the door or gate shall provide maneuvering clearance for a frontal approach. Therefore, a door can be recessed up to 8 inches and still comply with the maneuvering clearance requirements for an accessible door as long as the minimum maneuvering clearance per ADAAG 4.13.6 is provided and the floor or ground area within the required clearances is level and clear.

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS § 103-50,

ADAAG: 4.13.6 Maneuvering clearances at doors.

A door can be recessed 8 inches maximum due to wall thickness measured perpendicular to the face of the door to the face of the wall.

[Rul: 07/04] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call 586-8121.

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